

Next Meeting:

Monday 11th September 2023 8pm.

Speaker: Adrian O'Malley on Fertilizers.

Our Spring Show!

will.be held on 15th and 16th September 2023 at Woolooware Shores Retirement Village.

Set-up Thursday 14th from 2pm -5pm (see flyer p.19)

Note – please ensure you enter your name in our attendance book on entry to the meeting hall.

Use of hand sanitiser and social distancing is highly encouraged.





Cover Photo: Paph. Fanaticum

exhibited in August by Jan Robinson. Also winning Champion Paph. at the recent St Ives Orchid Fair 2023

photo - Melissa Karayannis

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. Bulletin - September 2023



Web: www.ssos.org.au - E: info@ssos.org.au

The Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. was founded in 1952 and is dedicated to the promotion, development and encouragement of a general interest and understanding of all aspects of orchid culture.

Monthly Meetings -

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Uniting Church Hall, corner Flora and Merton Streets, Sutherland @ 8pm, doors open 7pm. Visitors are always welcome (please arrive by 7.45pm to check in, plant benching by 7.50pm)

President: Rhonda Jackson Vice President: Frank Daniel

Secretary: David Hicks E: davehicks@outlook.com.au M: 0431 799 230

Treasurer: Margaret Spring

Committee: Murray Aldridge, Diane Phillips, Melissa Karayannis, Jenny Sharpham,

Mark Drury.

(Committee meets 1st Wed. monthly except January - Tradies Gymea @ 7.30pm)

Life Members: Murray Aldridge, Wal & Janette Chapman, Jan Robinson, Bob Moar,

Col Brandon, Frank Daniel, Audrey Marks.

Bulletin / Website: David Hicks

Member Contributions – to have your 'Photos @ Home' or written articles included in the Bulletin, please send to: davehicks@outlook.com.au (prior to **28**th each month)

President's Message

Dear Members,

Isn't this a lovely time of year? My speciosums are either in flower or coming into flower

They are such beautiful flowers. It is a busy time with repotting a lot of our plants. Our Spring show will be held this month so I hope you are tending to your orchids so that they look their best for the show.

As a few of the Committee will not be present at the show, would you please give your time freely to help out?

It's an enjoyable time to catch up with people.

It is timely that at our September meeting, Adrian O'Malley will be talking on fertilising and getting the most out of our orchids. It should be an interesting talk.

With Best Wishes - Rhonda









Monthly Benching Results - August 2023

PLANT OF THE NIGHT

Winner Paph. Drakonyx J. Robinson

OPEN JUDGES CHOICE HYBRID

Winner Paph. Drakonyx J. Robinson

OPEN JUDGES CHOICE SPECIES

Winner Paph. malipoense J. Robinson

INTERMEDIATE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Paph. Julia Marsh 'Fairfield' M. Karayannis

NOVICE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Paph. Sandalwood 'Blumen Insel' M. Drury

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

Winner Dend. Robbie McInnes C. Brandon

Monthly Benching Results – August 2023

CLASS#1	AUSTRALIAN NATIVE SPECIES	
1st	Ptst. curta	D. Mitsios
2nd	Ptst. curta	V. Petrovski
3rd	Ptst. pedunculata	W. & J. Chapman
4th	Ptst. curta	W. & J. Chapman
CLASS#2	PAPHIOPEDILUMS HYBRIDS	
1st	Paph. Drakonyx	J. Robinson
2nd	Paph. Fanaticum #2	J. Robinson
3rd	Paph. Larry Booth	W. & J. Chapman
4th	Paph. Honeygorse ' Downlands'	W. & J. Chapman
CLASS#3	AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRIDS	
1st	Den. Esme Poulton	J. Robinson
2nd	Den. Robbie McInnes	C. Brandon
3rd	Den. Hunter Cote 'Yellow'	C. Brandon
4th	Den. Robbie's Sparkling River	C. Brandon
CLASS#4	LAELIINAE HYBRIDS (CLASSICAL SHAPE)	
1st	Lc Cariad's Mini Quinee	V. Petrovski
2nd	Rth. Dal's Emperor 'Lester Lai'	D. Mitsios
3rd	C. Heathii #1 'AO1194'	D. Mitsios
4th	C. Tiffen Bells 'Orchidglade'	W. & J. Chapman
CLASS#5	DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS	
1st	Den. Australian Kayla 'Zoey'	C. Brandon
2nd	Den. Burana Pink	V. Petrovski
3rd	Den. Amphion Veil	R. Jackson
4th	Den. Australian Freckles	R. Jackson
CLASS#6	LAELIINAE HYBRIDS (NON-CLASSICAL SHAPE & CLUSTER)	
1st	Ctt. Portiana x labiata 'Tom'	R. Jackson







Monthly Benching Results – August 2023 cont'd

2nd	Paph. spicerianum 'Darcy' x 'My Best'	M. Drury
1st	Paph. 'unknown'	M. Drury
CLASS#19	NOVICE SPECIES	
3rd	Colm. Massai 'Splash'	M. Drury
2nd	Coel. Unchained Melody 'Lemoniana'	M. Spring
1st	Colm. Massai 'Splash'	M. Drury
CLASS#18	NOVICE MISCELLANEOUS	
1st	Den. delicatum 'White'	M. Drury
CLASS#16	NOVICE AUSTRALIAN NATIVES	
2nd	Paph. Lady Vale	M. Drury
1st	Paph. Sandalwood 'Blumen Insel'	M. Drury
CLASS#14	NOVICE PAPHIOPEDILUM	
NOVICE CLA	SS	
4th	Paph. sukhakulii	J. Robinson
3rd	Paph. venustum	J. Robinson
2nd	Rstp. contorta	W. & J. Chapma
1st	Paph. malipoense	J. Robinson
CLASS#12	SPECIES ASIAN OTHER THAN COELOGYNINAE	
1st	Mediocalcar decoratum	G. Birss
CLASS#11	SPECIES LAELIINAE	
4th	Ddc. wenzelii 'Orange'	D. Mitsios
3rd	Ddc. stenophyllum	R. Nicol
2nd	Ddc. tenellum	W. & J. Chapma
1st	Ddc. cobbianum	W. & J. Chapma
CLASS#10	SPECIES COELOGYNINAE	
4th	Coel. Linda Buckley	R. Jackson
3rd	Zga. Adelaide Jester x Artur Elle 'Essendon'	R. Ettrick
2nd	Masd. Tarnie	W. & J. Chapma
1st	Masd. Rein Touch 'Beenak'	D. Mitsios
CLASS#9	MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS	
5th	Cym. Mary Green 'Kim'	D. Mitsios
4th	Cym. Memoria Marvin Gaye 'Royale'	V. Petrovski
3rd	Cym. Arachnid	J. Costa
2nd	Cym. Drouin Masterpiece 'Renae'	V. Petrovski
1st	Cym. Regal Flame 'Queen of Hearts' x Khanebono 'Jacinta'	V. Petrovski
CLASS#8	CYMBIDIUM HYBRIDS	J. NODITISOTI
4th	Onc. Twinkle 'Red Fantasy'	D. Phillips J. Robinson
2nd 3rd	Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance' Onc. Twinkle 'Red Fantasy'	V. Petrovski
1st	Onc. Twinkle 'Fragance Fantasy'	V. Petrovski
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Monthly Benching Results - August 2023 cont'd

INTERMEDIA	ITE CLASS:	
CLASS#20	INTERMEDIATE PAPHIOPEDILUM	
1st	Paph. Julia Mash 'Fairfield'	M. Karayannis
2nd	Paph. Nitens 'insigne' x Paph. villosum	J. Hely
3rd	Paph. Doya Heart	M. Karayannis
CLASS#21	INTERMEDIATE CYMBIDIUM	
1st	Cym. Jack Hudlow 'Remembrance'	J. Hely
CLASS#22	INTERMEDIATE AUSTRALIAN NATIVES	
1st	Den. Jazz 'Windsor Downs' x Aussie Parade 'Carrot Splash'	J. Hely
2nd	Den. Esme Poulton	J. Ng
3rd	Den. Aust. Colourfest 'Nutboy' x Hilda Poxon 'Rusty Bucket'	J. Ng
4th	Den. 'unknown'	J. Hely
CLASS#23	INTERMEDIATE LAELIINAE	
1st	Lc. Mona Pink 'Hiromi' x C. Rosella's Angel Princess	J. Hely
2nd	Blc. Momilani Rainbown	J. Hely
3rd	Rth. Rosella's Horace	J. Ng
4th	Blc. Burdekin Delight 'Dreamtime'	J. Ng
CLASS#24	INTERMEDIATE MISCELLANEOUS	
1st	Onc. Twinkle 'CT White Strong'	M. Karayannis
2nd	Onc. cheirophorum	J. Hely
3rd	Lyc. Lucianii	J. Sharpham
CLASS#25	INTERMEDIATE SPECIES	
1st	Cu. pulchella 'Royal Self'	J. Ng
2nd	Coel. cristata	J. Ng
3rd	Paph. venustum	J. Ng

Guest Speaker at our August Meeting

Yates Products Suitable for Orchid Culture

Our guest speaker at the August meeting was Sarah, who gave us an overview on a number of products that Yates recommend for orchid culture. Products included fertilisers – liquid and pellet types, plus pot insertable stick types suitable for small plants growing indoors, fungicides, and others for various types of pest control.

Also, a new product – a potting mix for cymbidium and other orchids You can view the extensive range of Yates products at the following link:

https://www.yates.com.au/product/







Monthly Benching Winners – August 2023

Open Judges Choice Hybrid + PON exhibited by – J. Robinson



Paph. Drakonyx

Open Judges Choice Species exhibited by - J. Robinson



Paph. malipoense

Novice Judges Choice exhibited by – M. Drury



Paph. Sandalwood 'Blumen Insel'

Intermediate Judges Choice exhibited by – M. Karayannis



Paph. Julia Marsh 'Fairfield'

President's Choice exhibited by – C. Brandon



Dend. Robbie McInnes

From the Bench in August 2023

courtesy - George Birss

Paph. malipoense – *exhibited by Jan Robinson*

A recently discovered species, in 1984, known as "the Jade Slipper Orchid". From Southern China and Northern Vietnam.

It grows at elevations of 450 to 1500 metres making it an intermediate to cool growing orchid. Growing in leaf litter on limestone rocks and steep limestone cliffs the plant nestles in deep crevices because of this the inflorescence is extremely long at 30 to 50cm.

The plant has 4 to 6 mottled green leaves that are purple spotted underneath. The single flower has a raspberry fragrance. Characteristic of this flower is the large bulbourous pouch.

This orchid like to be re potted annually. If planted too high the roots will hang in the air and stop growing. Do not tamper or press the medium down or the mix will be too dense and suffocate the roots.

Malipoense like bright light, 70% humidity, good air circulation and likes more water than other paths.



Paph. malipoense

Mediocalcar decoratum - exhibited by George Birss

A unique miniature species that is native to New Guinea, that grows at elevations from 3000 to 7000 metres and although it prefers cooler temperature can tolerate summer heat.

A creeping, spreading mat of foliage that is slightly spiky in appearance but is quite succulent has small, 5cm orange and yellow bell-shaped flowers that can last for a month or more.

This plant is best grown into a specimen sized plant for the best effect. Grow mounted, in a horizontal position or in a shallow dish or basket.

I find best results are achieved with a shallow dish containing water under the growing dish to increase humidity.

There is a red and white variety called Mediocalcar paradoxum. This variety is rarely seen and is sparser in its growth habit and doesn't form a tight mass as M. decoratum.



Mediocalcar decoratum

Coelogyne cristata - exhibited by John Ng

An epiphytic species, from cool, moist areas in Eastern Himalayas and Vietnam. It grows on tree trunks where the roots anchor the plant to the tree.

Cristata has fat egg shaped pseudobulbs, each with two narrow leaves on top. Flower spikes are usually 30cm long with several 8 to 10cm wide flowers. The pure white flowers have ruffled petals and golden yellow markings on the lip. The flowers are very fragrant.

They like to be grown in coir lined baskets but go really well in water well pots this gives them plenty of water in their growing period and increases the humidity. After blooming, in November, reduce watering for a rest period.

Good air movement is essential as they come from high mountain areas. They like lots of light but not direct sun light, they prefer cooler temperatures and if too high they may not bloom.

If leaves develop brown tips, which is common, this can be caused by dry mix or can be from chemicals in tap water, use rain water and increase humidity.



Coelogyne cristata

From the Bench in August 2023 - cont'd

courtesy - George Birss



Paph. venustum

Paphiopedilum venustum - exhibited by John Ng

Found at 60 to 1400 metres from areas in Assam India, Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh and China growing at the bases of cliffs, in humus or dense undergrowth, usually near streams or in the crotch of trees in leaf litter.

This cool growing terrestrial has mottled bluish and light green leaves that are purple underneath. With a 12cm deep purple inflorescence the colourful flower comes in as many as eight variations of colour. The colour depends on the area of origin of the plant. The main colour has petals and lip a green yellow combination with pink extremities. The petals have "hairs" and are covered with brownish spots. A feature of this genus is that the pouch is heavily veined.

Conditions for venustum's are humid, well-watered conditions year-round, good air circulation and can tolerate less light than most Paphs.

A selection of beautiful Australian and Australasian Dendrobiums for September

courtesy – Col Brandon

Top left – D. Esme Poulton 'Henk' AM **Centre Left** – D. Australian Kayla **Lower Left** – D. Tarallab x schoenina

Top Centre – D. Wayne Turville 'Best' Centre – D. Beaumont 'Long last' Lower Centre – D. Eric Olsen 'Spring Show 2019' Top Right – D. spec. Herberton x Nat White Centre Right – D. Freckles x Aust. Ginger Lower Right – D. Surprise Kayla



























More Aust. Dendrobiums for September

courtesy - Col Brandon



D. Kayla 'Grant'.



D. Robbie's Sparkling River



D. Andrew Persson.



D. Balnarring



D. Eric Olsen 'Spring Show 2019'



D. Esme Poulton No2

Two lovely examples of 'Anceps' hybrids this Month courtesy - Gary Hodder



Lc. Santa Barbra Sunset 'Tyabb'



Lc. Santa Barbra Sunset 'Showtime'



Local Orchid Spotting

Spotted recently in the Loftus Area - Royal National Park courtesy – Ian Ware



Glossodia major



Caladenia catenata



Glossodia major



Local Orchid Spotting

Have you recently spotted one of our beautiful and unique Aust. native orchids in your local

Like to share the photo with other members? Please forward to the email address below to have it published in our Bulletin. Many thanks - Editor

> Please forward to: davehicks@outlook.com.au











Bushcare Sutherland Shire

Bushcare Sutherland Shire is supported by Sutherland Shire Council, and will be sponsoring our Spring Show with a promotional table set-up for the two days at our show venue

If you are wishing to find out more about the important work and events of this community based organisation, or how to volunteer please click on the link below:

Link: Bushcare Sutherland Shire



We are thinking of you and send our best wishes to all our members who are currently recovering from recent health issues

A lovely selection of Onc. Twinkle varieties for September

courtesy – Gary Hodder



Onc. Twinkle 'Pink Wax'.





Onc. BDCM Possum Woolf





Onc. Gold Dust Ball



Onc. Tsiku 'Marguerite'





Onc. Twinkle 'Pink Wax'



Onc. Gold Dust 'Chian Tzy Yangtze'

These terrific specimens benched at the August meeting

Dendrochilum tenellum – Wal Chapman



Mediocalcar decoratum – George Birss



Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING & GENERAL MEETING 14th August 2023

President Rhonda opened by wishing everyone a very good evening, and welcome to our August meeting.

A very warm welcome was also extended to our visitors tonight:

Sarah from Yates (our Aug. guest speaker), Jeff Bartlett, Mei Tuen Mok

APOLOGIES received tonight from: *George Birss, Gary Hodder, Mavis Randle, Adrian O'Malley, Chin White, David Dobson, Frank Daniel,*

President followed by mentioning that tonight we will be holding a Special General Meeting to vote on accepting the new Constitution, and then the general meeting will follow.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING:

President Rhonda declared the Special General Meeting open at 8.02pm

Based on the documentation sent out to members for review, the Special Resolution to update the Constitution was put to a member's vote.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION:

The members hereby:

- 1. revoke the current Constitution of the Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. dated 10th December 2012, and
- 2. adopt the proposed Constitution emailed or posted to members on 24 July 2023.

Members then voted with a show of hands. The votes counted as yes were well in excess of the statutory 75% minimum required to pass the resolution.

The new Constitution will now be forwarded to the Office of Fair Trading for their approval. It costs \$56 to lodge and the date of effect will be their official date of approval.

President thanked our members for their participation, then declared the Special General Meeting closed at $8.06 \mathrm{pm}$

AUGUST GENERAL MEETING:

President Rhonda then declared the August General Meeting open at 8.07pm

Firstly, asking that everyone make sure they sign the attendance sheet tonight, just in case we need to advise how many people attended the meeting.

NEW MEMBERS:

Lydia Chen and Jack Xu – Lydia and Jack live in Blakehurst and have been growing orchids for about a year.

Nina Woodcock – Nina lives in Bonnet Bay and has been growing a variety of orchids for about 2 years.

Lee Strong – Lee lives in Sutherland and has been growing a variety of orchids for 10 years.

These members will be benching in the Novice Class. Nina and Lee were present tonight, and Rhonda extended best wishes to all for a very enjoyable and rewarding membership with the Society.

Tonight, we also received a membership application from Jeff Bartlett and Mei Tuen Mok which will go to Committee in early September.

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES - cont'd

SPECIAL MEETING & GENERAL MEETING 14th August 2023

Rhonda mentioned that after the break, Sarah will be talking to us about Yates' product range suitable to our orchid culture.

MINUTES FROM JULY:

Robert Nicol motioned that the July Minutes as distributed in the August Bulletin, were accurate. *Jenny Sharpham* seconded the motion that they were correct. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

- Various July Society Bulletins including the July Orchid News from the OSNSW.
- An 'Expression of Interest' from Orchids Central Committee for an SSOS display.
- Advice and Flyer regarding the Central Coast Hunter Region Cymbid. Society Auction at Morisset Showground on 26th August.
- Invoice from Platypus Websites for our annual website hosting fee.
- Invoice from Icon Press for printing of the Spring Show flyers.
- Request from Daniel Webb for SSOS to participate in the 107 Plant Display Fair at Zetland on Saturday 9th September
- Request and pricelist from Christoff Mans to advertise his website and orchid bark and products through the Society.
- Advice and receipt for our annual AOC club membership
- Email from Bill Howse advising Bushcare will fund a table at our Spring show
- Confirmation of our Native Orchid Licence renewal from NPWS.

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

- Application form and renewal fee to NPWS for our Native Orchid Licence.
- Cheque for payment of our annual AOC club membership
- Invoice to Bushcare for a promotion table at our Spring Show.
- Request to John and Ruth Allen in Bathurst regarding availability of plants for our raffles
- Copy of our insurance Certificates of Currency to Bunnings Kirrawee

GENERAL BUSINESS:

SPRING SHOW

Rhonda reminded members that our Spring show will be held on 15th and 16th September at Woolooware Shores Taren Point, which is the weekend after our next meeting. Setup will be on Thursday 14th, 2pm – 5pm. Before next meeting, members will receive copies of the Show Schedule and other related documents. If you are selling NSW Native orchids, please ensure you fill in the Harvest Return form for those NSW native orchids and ensure your plants contain the NPWS 'Plantation Grown' tag. After the show, we will need to know which of those plants on the form have been sold.

For our shows to be successful we need your participation.

The volunteer roster was circulated tonight with spots available for the raffle sales, general security and sales table. Members were asked to please fill as many slots as they could, as a few Committee members are not available to attend this time.

The call went out for additional helpers on the sales table and security in the first morning shift due to the high demand experienced at the last show.

Flyers were available tonight for members to distribute, and to please see David in the break.

Changes to the Spring Show schedule

The committee has made several changes to the benching schedule for the Spring show. In consultation with our judges, nine classes have been amalgamated and two classes have been added.

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES - cont'd

SPECIAL MEETING & GENERAL MEETING 14th August 2023

The two new additions are:

Class 6: Best Novelty Cymbidium – all sizes and colours including peloric, and not included in the other Cymbidium classes.

Class 19: Best Australasian Dendrobium Hybrid – includes hybrids made from Fiji, Irian Jaya, Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Timor, Vanuatu and New Zealand.

Storage of the Show Boxes, and Banners

Last meeting, Rhonda mentioned that we were looking for someone to store the boxes and banners for our shows. Our thanks to Barbra and George Kypriotis from the Orchid Place for volunteering with this.

Spring Show Data Entry

Last meeting Rhonda also mentioned that we needed someone to data enter the judging of the show results. Our sincere thanks to Paul Sheaffe for volunteering to assist us with this very important task.

BUNNINGS:

At the last meeting it was mentioned that the Society will be participating in the Bunnings Caringbah Spring Launch Day on Saturday 9th September from 10am to 2pm.

Since last meeting we have been invited to participate in the Bunnings Kirrawee Spring Launch Day on Saturday $23^{\rm rd}$ September from 10am to 2pm

We would like your participation, even if it's only an hour. If you are able to participate on either or both those days, would you please enter your name in the roster which we have circulating here tonight.

These events are a great opportunity to promote our Society and shows with the general public, and we would welcome your participation and sharing of your orchid knowledge.

ORCHIDS CENTRAL:

In response to the request from the Orchids Central Committee for our expression of interest to participate with a display, we advised that we will not be participating this year.

THE ORCHID MARKET:

Christoff Mans, one of our members has emailed a list of products such as orchid bark and accessories that he is selling through his website: https://www.orchidmarket.net.au/ If you are interested, we have some flyers here for you to take.

OUESTIONS/SUGGESTIONS BOX

The committee thought it might be a good idea to try a Suggestions/Questions box. We felt there may be some members who would prefer this way of contact with the Society. If you have a question that you would like answered, we'll ask it at the meeting for one of our members to address. Entries can remain anonymous if you wish.

ACTIVITIES FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS:

In September- Adrian O'Malley will talk on fertilizers and getting the best out of your orchids.

In October – Barbra and George Kypriotis from *The Orchid Place* in Heathcote will talk on Commercial Orchid Growing.

David then gave a brief description of tonight's raffle plants.

As judging was still in progress, we thank the following members for providing cultural descriptions for some of their plants benched tonight.

Rob Nicol, John Costa, Melissa Karayannis, John Ng, Mark Drury

Meeting then moved to a break for supper (approx 15-20 mins.)

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. MINUTES - cont'd

SPECIAL MMETING & GENERAL MEETING 14th August 2023

TONIGHT'S ACTIVITY - Yates Orchid Products

Rhonda introduced Sarah from Yates who gave us an informative talk on the numerous products that yates can recommend for orchid culture.

Yates have a very extensive and diverse range of products, being one of the market leaders in this field for decades.

On completion, Rhonda thanked Sarah on behalf of the Society and presented her with a thank-you card and our gift of appreciation - to a round of applause.

Sarah left us a few product samples for our raffle later in the year.

Tonight, Rhonda had the pleasure of presenting two OSNSW / AOC Awards of Merit to Vic Petrovski: Cattlianthe Deception Drop 'MelVic' and Dend. Goldenglow Queen 'Vicki' Members congratulated Vic with a hearty round of applause.

AUGUST PRESENTATIONS:

Winner Name Badge Draw – *Lee Strong (1st raffle pick)* **Winners July Lucky Plants** – (\$10 certificates to each)

Mark Drury, Wal Chapman, John Hely

Raffle winners for August:

N. Woodcock, B. Kypriotis, L. Strong, M. Bootland, J. Robinson, R. Cawley, J. Hely, R. Nicol, D. Mitsios, M. Drury

JUDGES FOR AUGUST: Rhonda thanked our Judging Panel for this evening: Jan Robinson, David Brooks, Wal Chapman, Murray Aldridge, Joy Gouvoussis (Assoc) David Liu (Assoc)

August Judges' Choice Awards:

PLANT OF THE NIGHT: Paph. Drakonyx – *J. Robinson*

JUDGES CHOICE OPEN HYBRID: Paph. Drakonyx – J. Robinson

JUDGES CHOICE OPEN SPECIES: Paph. malipoense – *J. Robinson*

JUDGES CHOICE INTERMEDIATE: Paph. Julia Marsh 'Fairfield' – *M. Karayannis*

JUDGES CHOICE NOVICE: Paph. Sandalwood 'Blumen Insel' – M. Drury

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE: Dend. Robbie McInnes – C. Brandon

In closing, Rhonda thanked everyone for their attendance to night, and mentioned that we look forward to your company at our September $11^{\rm th}$ meeting.

Members were asked if they would please help by putting the chairs and tables away, and if someone could sweep the floor it would be appreciated.

Also, if a table is dirty, would you please wipe it over.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm,

What to do in Spring

courtesy – George Birss

Hopefully we have been through the coldest periods and warmer weather is on the way As the days lengthen and get warmer now is the time to attack your orchids, because the bugs are, but we'll address that later.

Re-potting should have started particularly with the winter flowerers that have finished flowering. Clean or new pots, fresh potting mix from a reputable supplier and clean utensils, old medium and stuff should not be re used.

Plants you are not re potting need a top up with slow-release fertiliser (Osmocote 8 -9 months), or dynamic lifter or similar, I prefer K – tec, it has more trace elements and doesn't pong as much. Plants like Stanhopea and speciosum will benefit from this but water in well.

Like I mentioned previously, bugs are on the move looking for that lush new growth or those fattening buds, isn't it strange how the little buggers can find a new growth to attack before you have noticed it.

Personally, I don't like using lots of pesticides or chemical treatments, I find good ventilation eliminates a lot of problems BUT sometimes this needs some help.

A couple of nasties are snails that can travel to impossible to access areas and chew on only the best grows, buds or blooms and with the present and forecasted rain they will come, good snail pellets are essential. Mice and rats can devastate lovely fleshy pseudobulbs overnight so look for tell-tale droppings.

Speciosums are either in full bloom or almost finished but the nemesis of Sydney Rock Orchids, the dreaded Dendrobium Beetle is still about. You should have been taking protective measures to stop them munching on flowers. Keep spraying with Neem Oil then stop at the end of November till the end of January, over the hotter months, then re- start at six-week intervals to stop them munching on new growths and stop them laying eggs in old canes, also give a feed with pelleted fertilizer to assist new growth.

Hard Cane Dendrobiums are either in flower or spike watch out for aphids, they are easy to miss until the flowers appear and then too late. Soapy water can wash them off if not try insect spray well away from buds as it will burn them or pyrethrum. Another pest can be Mealy bug treat as for aphids or use cotton bud and metho. and wipe off if small infestations.

Soft Cane Dendrobiums are coming into bud or even into flower for some. Once the bud has formed, not the node, start to fertilise, increase water to every second day and hang in full sun. These have hardly any insect problems but check daily for Dendrobe. beetles as they fancy the flowers.

Stanhopea will show signs of spring with early spikes popping out the bottom and sides of baskets. Now is the time to increase water and fertilizer. Personally, I keep in heavy shade and am starting to water every second day, at present mother nature is helping with the rain. I am now increasing fertilising to twice a week and have given a hand full of K-tec fertiliser as well. I have some really lush leaves as new growth and by keeping in the shade won't get sun affected, but with this weather little chance of that happening.

Cymbidiums are getting towards the end but some late varieties are still spiking, particularly the Aussie natives. As the flowers die off cut old spikes this allows the bulbs to take in and store nutrients instead of passing them to the spent flowers.

After flowering is the time to decide whether your plants need re potting or not, either way keep up the water and fertiliser and give plenty of dappled light, the brighter the better, if you just want a good show for yourself and not for the sales bench try growing in full sun year-round, it takes a while for them to climatise and leaves will burn but next year's growth will be OK, for the others just more protection during December and January.

(cont'd next page)

What to do in Spring - cont'd

courtesy – George Birss

Cattleyas should almost be finished and may need re potting although some seem to prefer to be pot bound and actually like growing with their rots outside the pot clinging to the pot sides. This doesn't hurt but makes it difficult to re pot later unless you are going to divide the plant, possibly for re sale or to give to a friend.

Watch for mealy bug, particularly in the leaf axis, and scale, this will hide under old sheafs and can multiply quickly, so check regularly, they tend to hide on the back side so pick your plant up and turn it around and look under leaves you may find those nasties hiding out of site.

Sarcochilus are starting to spike and bud up, with some early types already in bloom. Increase water and bloom fertiliser. The nemesis for these little treasures is scale and aphids so keep an early eye out.

If you haven't already done so, Sarcs. will benefit from a little brighter light, not direct sun though. A past member, Neville Roper, who was an excellent Sarc. grower used a 50/50 application of Dolomite and Blood and Bone 2-3 times a year usually just before rain to wash it in.

Laelia have just about finished and should have the old spikes removed. If re potting now is the time and think about water well pots, laelia love them. Another suggestion if you have small pieces or a flower that is a bit ordinary, or extra bits, think about tying to a tree.

These give a great effect when in bloom with the long spike swaying in the breeze also Oncidiums or "dancing ladies" can be used in the same way.

Pick a tree that doesn't lose its bark, frangipani, palm or bottle brush, just attach with old stocking, fishing line or twine this will last till the roots attach, they won't harm the tree as orchids are epiphytes.

There are plenty of other genera to keep you busy as October and November and early December are the ideal months to get back into your orchids.

Prepare first – clean pots that are going to be re-used but remember pots are cheap so a new pot is not a great expense. Arrange your potting media, bark, perlite, sphag moss and clay balls. Make sure you have ample of the other requirements on hand, Auxinone, Confidor, liquid or powder, Neem Oil, to spray after re potting and slow-release fertiliser.

Clean your cutters and ready your permanent marker and tags. Remember new equipment and gear costs little compared to some orchids you purchase.

Happy Growing! - George

A Lovely Selection from Home for September

courtesy – Melissa Karayannis







Lc. Topaz Fancy x Topaz Impact.

Zyg. Cynosure 'Blue Birds.

Lyc. James Miller 'Birthday Surprise'









A Bit of Society Trivia Did you Know?

The Society's logo is based on the beautiful Catt. Beaufort (pictured)





Our Congratulations to Vic Petrovski for achieving the following Awards

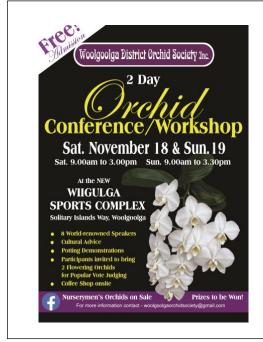


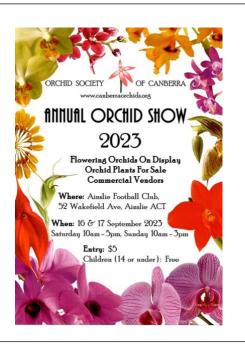


Dendrochilum niveum 'Yeowie' AM/AOC courtesy – Rob Nicol























Australian Orchid Council **Publications Committee**

Do your members know about Orchids Australia?











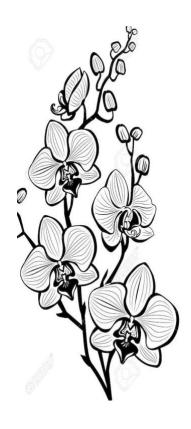




Light Supper at Meetings

Tea or Coffee plus biscuits are available during the break at the back of the hall.

*As disposable cups are no longer provided, please remember to <u>bring along your own mug!</u>





Our thanks to
Bunnings Kirrawee and
Caringbah
for their sponsorship
towards
our Shows in 2023

also



Woolooware Shores
Taren Point
for providing our Venue



Upcoming Shows and Events for 2023.

Saturday 9th September 2023, SSOS participation in the Bunnings Caringbah Spring Launch Day 10am - 2pm

Monday 11th September 2023, SSOS General Meeting, speaker Adrian O'Malley on fertilizers for orchid culture.

Friday 15th – **Saturday 16**th **September 2023,** SSOS Spring Show – setup Thursday 14th Sept. from 2.00pm to 5pm (see flyer page 19)

Saturday 23rd September 2023, SSOS participation in the Bunnings Kirrawee Spring Launch Day 10am - 2pm

Monday 9th October 2023, SSOS General Meeting, speaker Barbra and George from the Orchid Place on 'Commercial Orchid Growing'

Friday 13th **October to Sunday 15**th **October,** Orchids Central Fair (ex SOS) Club Condell Park, Bankstown – (see flyer page 18)

Wednesday 1st **November 2023 –** SSOS re-potting demo / promo day at Bunnings Kirrawee 11am – 12pm

Saturday 11th November, John and Ruth Allen, Orchid Sale in Bathurst (see flyer page 18)

Monday 13th November 2023, SSOS General Meeting, speaker Rhonda Jackson on Aust. Native Orchids spotted during a recent trip to WA.

Sat. 18th - Sun, 19th November - WDOS Inc. presents Orchid Conference and Workshop, Wiigulga Sports Complex, Woolgoolga (*see flyer page 18*)

Monday 11th December 2023, SSOS General Meeting, Christmas Party, Giant Raffle, Presentations (details to be advised)

Dear SSOS Members – we would really appreciate your **Photos @ Home or Articles** to include in our monthly Bulletins.

To contribute, please email to the Editor:

David Hicks E: davehicks@outlook.com.au

(by the 28th of each month)

thank-you

Disclaimer: The growing guides included in this Bulletin are provided as a starting basis to cultivation, and local conditions in your area may require modification to these suggestions. The Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. does not endorse or support any claims or opinions expressed by the authors of these articles, and are not responsible for the results of your cultivation practices.